

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1931, Dennis "Doc" Casey was born in Mitchell, South Dakota, and grew up on a farm, which cultivated his fascination for wild animals; and,

Whereas, In 1972, Doc founded Bear Country USA, which has entertained tourists from all over the United States and around the world for 37 years with its drive-through, wildlife park experience; and,

Whereas, In 2003, the Casey Family and Bear Country USA were awarded the Tom Didier family business award from The University of South Dakota for continuing honesty, openness, inspiration, courage, and commitment to family business and community; and,

Whereas, In March 2004, Doc received the Ben Black Award for his tireless and outstanding contributions to the state's travel industry; and,

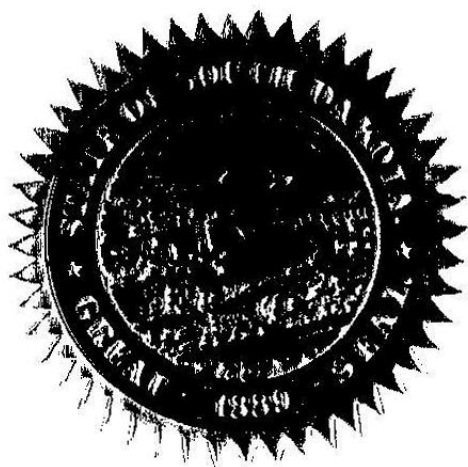
Whereas, Doc was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame during the fall of 2004, being recognized for his contributions to the state's forward progress, to a way of life most South Dakotans have come to expect, and for the exhibition of a lifestyle of values admired by all citizens; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to join others in the recognition of Doc as he is memorialized with a life-sized, bronze statue that will stand among the animals of Bear Country USA:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2009, as

DOC CASEY DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State